

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRISBA 00094 290503Z

12

ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 SMI-01 DRC-01 RSC-01 /021 W

----- 022693

R 290215Z JUL 74

FM AMCONSUL BRISBANE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0460

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMCONSUL SYDNEY

AMCONSUL MELBOURNE

UNCLAS BRISBANE 0094

FOR: SMITHSONIAN OBSERVATORY, CAMBRIDGE, MASS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TGEN, AS

SUBJECT: POISONOUS TOAD INFESTATION

POISONOUS TOAD MENTIONED IN REFTEL IS BUFO MARINUS, COMMON NAME CANE TOAD. CANE TOAD NOT NATIVE TO QUEENSLAND. INTRODUCED APPROXIMATELY 1934 TO COMBAT CANE BEETLE. THUS, NO NORMAL RANGE IN AUSTRALIA. MAINLY CONFINED TO QUEENSLAND AT PRESENT.

MATURE CANE TOAD ATTAINS LENGTH OF 6-8 INCHES, LIVES APPROXIMATELY 3 YEARS. POSSESSES POISONOUS GLANDS ON BACK WHICH CAN CAUSE DEATH TO SNAKES, BIRDS, CARNIVOROUS MARSUPIALS, DOGS, ETC. WHICH EAT THE TOAD. NOT DANGEROUS TO HUMANS UNLESS EATEN.

POSSESSES GREAT REPRODUCTIVE CAPACITY. FEMALE AND LAY UP TO 100,000 EGGS IN SIX WEEK PERIOD. NO PRESENT FIGURES ON POPULATION DENSITY; HOWEVER, GREATEST DENSITIES OCCUR IN PERIODS WET, WARM WEATHER, WHICH IS TYPE PREVAILING IN CENTRAL COASTAL QUEENSLAND.

QUEENSLAND MUSEUM, FORTITUDE VALLEY 4006, QUEENSLAND, AUSTRALIA, COMPLETING STUDY OF CANE TOAD. CONSULATE WILL FORWARD COPY OF STUDY WHEN FINISHED. "INFESTATION" MENTIONED

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 BRISBA 00094 290503Z

IN REFTEL MAY REFER TO TWO RECENT ACCIDENTS AT PERTH AND

DARWIN AIRPORTS IN WHICH BOXES CONTAINING TOADS FOR
LABORATORY STUDY ACCIDENTALLY BROKE OPEN ALLOWING TOADS TO
ESCAPE. MOST TOADS HAVE BEEN RECOVERED, BUT IN VIEW OF TOADS
REPRODUCTIVE POTENTIAL AND DARWINS WET, WARM CLIMATE, EFFORTS
STILL UNDERWAY TO RECAPTURE TOADS STILL AT LARGE.
FRIEDMAN

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CAMBRIDGE.

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISEASE CONTROL, ANIMAL DISEASES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 JUL 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974BRISBA00094
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740205-0097
From: BRISBANE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740711/aaaaairk.tel
Line Count: 68
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SCI
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: shawdg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUL 2002 by thomasv0>; APPROVED <28 JAN 2003 by shawdg>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: POISONOUS TOAD INFESTATION POISONOUS TOAD MENTIONED IN REFTEL IS BUFO MARINUS, COMMON
TAGS: TGEN, AS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005